Serial No. 10/776,259

## REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Support for the amendment can be located on page 4, at lines 26-29. On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 due to the claimed invention allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In response, Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner. As claims 1-8 were indicated as being allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 5 -27-01

By:

Registration No. 46 883

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 434-1500 Facsimile: (202) 434-1501